

head covering In the presence of strangers." They wear very little else. A woman who stood for her photograph " would more readily have uncovered all the rest of her body than her head," <sup>1</sup> The Guanches thought it immodest for a woman to show her breasts or feet.<sup>2</sup> Yakut women roll cord on the naked thigh In the presence of men who do not belong to the house, and allow themselves to be seen uncovered to the waist, but they are angry if a man stares at their naked feet. In some places the Yakuts attach great importance to the rule that young wives should not let their husband's male relatives see their hair or their feet.<sup>3</sup> In mediasval Germany a respectable woman thought it a great disgrace if a man saw her naked feet.<sup>4</sup> The Indian woman of those tribes of the northwestern coast of North America which wear the labret are as much embarrassed to be seen without it as a white woman would be if very incompletely dressed.<sup>5</sup> The back and navel are sometimes under a special taboo of concealment, especially the navel, which is sacred, as above noticed, on account of its connection with birth. Peschel<sup>6</sup>

quotes private information that a woman in the Philippine Islands put a shirt on a boy in order to cover the navel and nothing more. In her view nothing more needed to be covered. Many peoples regard the navel as of erotic interest. Instances occur in the *Arabian Nights*. It is very improper for a Chinese woman who has compressed feet to show them. Thomson <sup>7</sup> gives a picture which shows the feet of a woman, but it was very difficult, he says, to persuade the woman to pose in that way. Chinese people would consider the picture obscene. No European would find the slightest suggestion of that kind in it. An Arab woman, in Egypt, cares more to cover her face than any other part of her body, and she is more careful to cover the top or back of her head than her face.<sup>8</sup> It appears that if any part of the body is put under a concealment taboo for any reason whatever, a consequence is that the opinion grows up that it never ought to be

<sup>1</sup> Fritsch, *Eingeo. Sild-Afr.*, 230, 311, 349.  
<sup>5</sup> *U. S. Nat. Mus.*, 1888, 257.

<sup>2</sup> *N. S. Amer. Anthrop.*, II, 470.

<sup>6</sup> *Races of Man* ^ 172.

<sup>8</sup> Sieroshevski, *Yakuty (russ.)*, 562, 570.

<sup>7</sup> *Illustrations of China* > II, No. 39.

\* Weinhold, *D. F.*, I, 164.

Lane, *Mod. Egyptians*, I, 69, 266.